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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Takeshi Yokoi, et al.

Examiner: Unassigned

Serial No: To be assigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

Filed: Herewith

Docket: 18969

For: MEDICAL APPARATUS

Dated: July 5, 2005

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. U.S. Patent No. 5,353,807, dated October 11, 1994, issued to DeMarco;
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2001-179700, published July 3, 2001 together with an English language abstract;
3. Japanese Patent No. 3017770, dated December 24, 1999 together with English language abstract and corresponding U.S. Patent No. 5,681,260, dated October 28, 1997, issued to Ueda et al.;

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: July 5, 2005


Thomas Spinelli

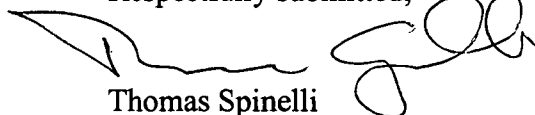
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4. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2002-187100, published July 2, 2002 together with an English language abstract;
5. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 8-216876, published August 27, 1996 together with an English language abstract;
6. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 8-503384, published April 16, 1996 together with corresponding European Patent Specification No. EP 0 651 667 B1, published May 10, 1995, International Publication No. WO 94/01165, published January 20, 1994 and U.S. Patent No. 5,318,557, dated June 7, 1994, issued to Gross.

References 2-6 was cited in a Search Report dated January 27, 2004 received from the Japanese Patent Office. References 2 and 3 are also cited in the specification. Applicants are submitting copies of references 2-6, together with a copy of the Search Report. The relevance of references 2-6 has been described in the Search Report. Reference 1 and the corresponding U.S. patents are not being submitted herewith, as copies of U.S. patents are no longer required per the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i) in effect as of June 30, 2003.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT(S)
Takeshi Yokoi, et al.
 FILING DATE
Herewith
 GROUP ART UNIT
Unassigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5,353,807	10/11/1994	DeMarco			
	5,681,260	10/28/1997	Ueda et al.			
	5,318,557	6/7/1994	Gross			

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	2001-179700	7/3/2001	Japan				
	3017770	12/24/1999	Japan				
	2002-187100	7/2/2002	Japan				
	8-216876	8/27/1996	Japan				
	8-503384	4/16/1996	Japan				

OTHER DOCUMENTS *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*

EXAMINER /Samuel Candler/ DATE CONSIDERED 01/14/2009

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	EP 0 651 667 B1	5/10/1995	Europe				
	WO 94/01165	1/20/1994	PCT				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

/Samuel Candler/

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